

In the Claims:

1-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) An oxygen-containing gas blowing device for use in a wet flue gas desulfurizer for removing SO₂ from combustion exhaust gas by wet desulfurization, wherein comprising: a fluid reservoir for an absorbing fluid[[is]] equipped with a delivery pipe for discharging the absorbing fluid so that its discharge end is open in said fluid reservoir, wherein the upper part of the discharge end of the delivery pipe is made longer so as to overhang the lower part of the discharge end of said deliver pipe; and an oxygen feed nozzle for injecting an oxygen-containing gas is disposed in the area of the discharged stream in the neighborhood of the discharge end of said delivery pipe attached so as to extend through the upper part of the discharge end of the delivery pipe.

7. (currently amended) An The oxygen-containing gas blowing device for use in a wet flue gas desulfurizer as claimed in claim 6, wherein an injection orifice at the tip of said the oxygen feed nozzle is disposed in the area of the jet just discharged from said discharge end of the delivery pipe.

8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) An The oxygen-containing gas blowing device for use in a wet flue gas desulfurizer as claimed in claim 6 wherein said delivery pipe penetrates into said fluid reservoir through the sidewall thereof, and said delivery pipe is disposed in said fluid reservoir so that it is horizontally and radially deflected toward a tangential direction so as to cause the stream discharged from said delivery pipe to flow along the sidewall of said fluid reservoir and so that it is inclined downward.

10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) A wet flue gas desulfurizer equipped with an oxygen-containing gas blowing device as claimed in claim 6.

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